

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 4067

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, SP, US

SUBJECT: CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER LOPEZ RODO:
FOREIGN MINISTER'S COMMENTS ON US EXPORT
RESTRICTIONS: THE SPOKANE FAIR.

1. DURING CALL TODAY ON FOREIGN MINISTER
LOPEZ RODO HE MENTIONED TO ME GOS CONCERN REGARDING
US EXPORT RESTRICTIONS ON CERTAIN COMMODITIES IN
US-SPAIN TRADE.

A. FOREIGN MINISTER MENTIONED THE SERIOUS PROBLEM THAT
HAS ARISEN IN SPAIN DUE TO THE EXPORT RESTRICTION PLACED
ON SOY BEANS AND MEAL WHICH AFFECTS SPANISH FEED IN-
DUSTRY AND WHICH GIVES GOS VERY GREAT CONCERN. HE
STATED THAT AVAILABLE STOCKS WILL LAST ONLY THROUGH
SEPTEMBER AND THAT GOS DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE
AVAILABILITY OF THESE ITEMS AFTER THAT DATE, POINTING
OUT THAT SPAIN IS THE NUMBER 4 CUSTOMER OF THE UNITED
STATES OF SOY BEANS AND MEAL, HAD GREAT FRIENDSHIP
AND COMMON INTEREST WITH U.S., AND REFERRED TO THE TERMS
OF U.S. AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP. HE
REQUESTED THAT THE U.S. GUARANTEE 1.5 MILLION TONS OF SOY
BEANS OR MEAL TO SPAIN FROM THE NEXT HARVEST. HE PUT
GREAT STRESS ON THE AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION AND
FRIENDSHIP IN MAKING THIS REQUEST INDICATING HIS THOUGHT
THAT THIS AGREEMENT OBLIGATED THE UNITED STATES TO GIVE
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SPAIN SOME SPECIAL TREATMENT.

B. LOPEZ RODO CONTINUED ON SAME SUBJECT OF EXPORT RESTRICTIONS POINTING OUT THAT THE RECENT EMBARGO ON SCRAP WAS VERY SERIOUS FOR SPANISH INDUSTRY BECAUSE NOT ONLY THE U.S. BUT THE COMMON MARKET HAD EMBARGOED EXPORTS SO THAT SPAIN HAS NO PLACE TO TURN FOR MUCH NEEDED SCRAP. AGAIN HE APPEALED TO THE ESPECIALLY FRIENDLY POSITION OF SPAIN WITH RESPECT TO THE UNITED STATES AND TO THE AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP AS WARRANTING SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE SPANISH NEEDS.

2. I NEXT MENTIONED TO HIM THE SPOKANE FAIR WHICH WILL TAKE PLACE FROM MAY TO NOVEMBER 1974 AND WHICH WILL BE ONLY INTERNATIONAL FAIR IN THE U.S. IN THE 1970 DECADE, INDICATING THE SUPPORT GIVEN TO IT BY PRESIDENT NIXON AND HIS APPOINTMENT OF FAIR COMMISSIONER HENDERSON WHO IS NOW IN SPAIN CONTACTING SPANISH AUTHORITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF OBTAINING SPANISH AGREEMENT TO PARTICIPATE. I TOLD HIM THAT HENDERSON HAD SEEN OFFICIALS IN THE FON MINISTRY AND WAS TALKING WITH OTHER MINISTRIES DURING HIS STAY IN MADRID. I POINTED OUT I WANTED TO BRING THIS MATTER TO HIS ATTENTION, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE FON MINISTRY IN THESE MATTERS BUT ALSO BECAUSE I KNOW HIS OWN PERSONAL INTEREST IN MATTERS OF CONSERVATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT, POINTING OUT THAT THE MAIN THEME OF THE FAIR IS PRECISELY IN THESE AREAS. HE SHOWED INTEREST AND DID STATE THAT THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE WHOLE PROBLEM OF ECOLOGY IS ONE OF HIS HOBBIES AND HE AGREED TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER TO SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE.

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